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“Keep the Dream Alive”

I have been taught as a Christian and as a United States Citizen that all people have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I have also been taught that all men are created equal. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wanted us to be judged by our character and not by the color of our skin. He also said that all people deserve the “riches of freedom and security of justice.” Dr. King wanted us “to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, and to stand up for freedom together.”

As a child, it is hard for me to imagine just what my impact on society will be when all is said and done. I know that through my family and education I will continue to develop my own sense of self and self esteem. I hope that with the help of my family, teachers and friends, I will continue to try and understand the differences between people and cultures. To appreciate and to tolerate every human being whether they are black, white, Jewish, Gentile, Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, Hindu, rich or poor.

As I grow older, my continuing contribution to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s dream will always be to speak out against injustice and to teach my children to do the same.

Dr. King said, “Only when it is dark enough, can you see the stars.” The stars need to shine brighter, and they will, if we all work harder to live together in peace. In these troubled times after 9/11, Dr. King’s words are as true today as they were in the 60’s when he said, “It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world;

(Tim Pianka continued)

its nonviolence or nonexistence". We need to continue together and as individuals always to seek peace and to pursue his dream.